

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that this patent application is in condition for allowance. An early indication of the allowability of this application is therefore respectfully solicited.

Applicant notes that the Conclusion portion of the Office Action includes discussions of *Brandon* and *Wunning*, and alleges that they, too, anticipate portions of the claimed combinations. Applicant first strongly objects to the disparagement of the patentability of the claimed combinations outside of a formal rejection of the claims, represented by these statements. Applicant also notes that the definitions of the recirculation rates in both *Brandon* (col. 1, lines 38-52) and *Wunning* (col. 2, lines 40-43) are the same as that in *Sherman*, and therefore also do not anticipate the claimed recirculation feature.

If Mr. Rodriguez believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, he is invited to call on the number below.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the undersigned hereby authorizes any fees for said petition be charged to our deposit account 50-2821.

Respectfully submitted,

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